UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/50/L.49
1 December 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda items 96 (d) and 116

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/50/L.33

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would:

"Endorse the institutional linkage between the Convention secretariat and the United Nations, as advised by the Secretary-General and adopted by the Conference of the Parties" (para. 2);

"Request the Secretary-General to review the functioning of this institutional linkage not later than 31 December 1999, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties and to report thereon to the General Assembly" (para. 3);

"Decide to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996-1997 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for that biennium, entailing twelve weeks of conference-servicing facilities" (para. 8);

"Request the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998-1999 those sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies that the Conference may need to convene in that period" (para. 9);

"Take note of the transitional arrangement for administrative support to the Convention secretariat, outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/120, with particular reference to the implications arising from the report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session, which should facilitate the establishment and relocation of the Convention secretariat and assist it in addressing any initial financial and personnel problems that may be encountered within this context and also take note of the financing arrangements contained in operative paragraphs 8 and 9, and request the Secretary-General to review these arrangements towards the end of the biennium 1996-1997 and to report upon the results of this review to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session" (para. 10).

2. No provision for conference servicing for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies was made under section 26 (Administration and management) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 at the time of its preparation.

3. Under the terms of operative paragraph 8, the Second Committee would recommend to the General Assembly that 12 weeks of conference servicing of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its subsidiary bodies be included in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996-1997 at this stage. Given the reasons outlined in his report, 1/ the Secretary-General believes that the 1996 programme of meetings of the Convention bodies should be included in that calendar. As indicated in his report, an appropriation of $3,522,200 would be required under section 26E (Conference services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 in order to finance the conference-servicing costs of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in 1996. Such an appropriation would be subject to the guidelines for the use and operation of the contingency fund established by resolutions 41/213 and 42/211. 2/

4. With regard to 1997, since the programme of meetings has not yet been defined by the Parties, the Secretariat is not in a position to estimate at this stage the precise conference-servicing requirements.

5. The issues of an administrative and budgetary nature referred to in operative paragraphs 8 and 10 of the draft resolution will be brought to the attention of the Fifth Committee which will, as appropriate, in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 45/248, section II, of 21 December 1990, provide its views to the General Assembly.

6. Issues relating to future bienniums will be dealt with in the context of the proposed programme budgets for those bienniums.

Notes

1/ A/50/716/Add.1, paras. 3 and 4.

2/ Ibid., para. 6.